

painted in the Fourteenth Century. Rosina Knutti was baptized in this Wimmes church. Christian Kunz and his three daughters lived in this district among other relatives.

As we traveled through this scenic area, we crossed the Simme River and up the Simmental Canyon, the home of the famous Simmental Cattle. Some of our Kunz relatives took Simmental Cattle to the estate of the Russian Tzar, Alexander Nicholas II in 1880. The Russian paper headlines were: "Simmentals Instead of Cannons." The Simmental Cattle have been exported to Canada, South Africa, all over Europe and the United States, as well as Russia.

As we traveled up the canyon, we saw metal bands fastened to trees. We were told that deer and other animals seeing the reflection of lights on these bands, keep off the road after dark.

The bright red geraniums, hugh stacks of wood piled neatly by each home, the home and barn under one roof, the carpet of green grass, the manicured forests and the blue sky with soft white drifting clouds will remain a lasting memory of peace and beauty. It made us wonder how our ancestors had the courage to leave their beautiful homeland forever and no regrets or complaints. They left all this beauty for something more beautiful and lasting -- the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Our next stop was Zwischenfluh, Kunz country and the home of Magdeline Wiedmer. Each had a choice experience of walking up a narrow stairway into a room with lace curtains on the windows and fresh flowers on the table to meet "Aunt Maede", a dear white-haired grandmother with a kind face and sparkling eyes. She reminded us of our own sweet grandmothers. We shook hands with her. It seemed as though we had known her all our lives. As we left on the bus, she stood at the window and waved goodbye.

The two-room village school was a short distance from Aunt Maede's. The children were playing a game in the school